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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

13 APRIL 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles - LA Gangs Sent Crews to Follow and Rob City's Wealthiest

(U) Authorities said that more than a dozen Los Angeles gangs are targeting some of the city's wealthiest residents in a new and aggressive manner by sending out crews in multiple cars to find, follow and rob people driving high-end vehicle or wearing expensive jewelry. The Los Angeles Police Department convened a task force at the end of last year that has identified at least 17 gangs, mostly based out of South LA and operating independently. There were 165 such robberies in 2021 and 56 so far this year. Shots have been fired in 23 cases, and two victims have been killed.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, Yahoo News

(U) Oakland – Security Guard Killed at Tiny Home Site for Homeless Residents

(U) Authorities said a security guard who was working at a cabin community for unhoused residents was killed after being shot while working an overnight shift. The security guard was sitting in a patrol car outside the cabin site where he was shot and pronounced dead. The Mandela Community Cabins are a cluster of rudimentary tiny homes that provide temporary shelter to dozens of unhoused people and give them an alternative to living in encampments. Authorities have not released the security guard's identity and no arrests have been made at this time.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, East Bay Times

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Border Patrol Officers Seize \$3.2 Million Worth of Cocaine from Truck

(U) Laredo – US Customs and Border Protection officer seized 427 pounds of cocaine, valued at more than \$3 million, during an inspection of a tractor-trailer attempting to cross the US Mexico border last week. Authorities observed a commercial truck at the Laredo port of entry carrying paper-mache of glass handicrafts and subjected the truck to a second inspection. The secondary inspection produced 101 packages of cocaine.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, Fox News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Leads Seizure of World's Largest Hack Forums, Arrests Administrator

(U) Washington – Federal authorities seized the RaidForums website, a popular marketplace for cybercriminals to buy and sell hacked data, and unsealed criminal charges against RaidForums' founder and chief administer. Prior to its seizure, RaidForums members used the platform to offer for sale hundreds of databases of stolen data containing more than 10 billion unique records for individuals residing in the US and internationally. The records included stolen bank routing and account numbers, credit card information, login credentials, and social security numbers.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, US DOJ

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(U) New York - Police Search for Gunmen in Attack on Brooklyn Subway

(U) Brooklyn – NYPD authorities identified "a person of interest" in the mass shooting on a crowded subway train in Brooklyn yesterday that injured nearly two dozen people, five of the critically. The suspect, Frank R. James, had rented a U-Haul van in Philadelphia to carry out the shooting. Authorities said a key to the van was found in a collection of belongings on the train belonging to the gunmen, also including a Glock 9-millimeter handgun, three ammunition magazines, a hatchet, fireworks, and a liquid believed to be gasoline. The suspect has addresses in Philadelphia and Wisconsin and is currently at large.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, New York Times

(U) Minnesota – Man Sentenced to Year in Prison for Voicemail Threats Against US Representative

(U) St Paul – Federal prosecutors said a St Paul man was sentenced to one year in prison for threatening a California member of the US House of Representatives last year. The suspect pleaded guilty in September to one count of interstate communication of a threat. In January 2021, the suspect left a voicemail at the California office of the US Representative threatening to cause "pain in every way possible" and also alluded tor recent vandalism to the lawmaker's home. The suspect will also spend two years on supervised release after completing the prison term.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, Twin Cities Pioneer Press

(U) West Virginia – Final Five Defendants Plead Guilty to Roles in Multi-State Drug Ring

(U) Huntington – Five individuals pleaded guilty this week to roles in a multi-state drug trafficking organization (DTO) operating in Huntington that distributed fentanyl, methamphetamine, oxycodone, heroin, cocaine, and crack. The five are the last of 18 individuals to enter guilty pleas in the case, the result of a long-term investigation in which law enforcement seized more than 47 pounds of fentanyl, 4.5 pounds of cocaine, 2 pounds of heroin, 14 firearms, and more than 300K in cash. The prosecution is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force investigation that seeks identify, disrupt, and dismantle the highest-level drug traffickers, money launderers, gangs, and transnational criminal organizations.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, US DOJ

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Israel – Attempted Terror Attack in Ashkelon, Terrorist Killed

(U) Ashkelon – Authorities in Israel said a man stabbed a police officer at an apartment complex in Ashkelon in an attempted terrorist attack. The officer performed a security check an individual and the suspect pulled out a knife and attempted to stab the officer. The officer responded quickly and shot the man who died on the scene. The officer was slightly injured and evacuated to a medical facility. The latest incident comes as Israel reels from a series of terror attacks that have left 14 civilians dead in the past three weeks.

SOURCE: 12 April 2022, <u>Jerusalem Post</u>

(U) Mexico - Bodies of Six People Found Dumped on Road in Mexico amid Cartel Battles

(U) Zacatecas – Authorities discovered the bodies of five men and one woman were found dumped on a roadside in Mexico's north central state of Zacatecas. State prosecutors did not provide a motive in the killings. The area has been the scene of bloody turf battles between the Jalisco and Sinaloa drug cartels.

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Zacatecas has one of the highest per-capita homicide rates in Mexico and is a key transit point for drugs, especially the powerful synthetics painkiller fentanyl, moving north to the US border. Mexico continues to see a wave of brazen mass killings across the country.

SOURCE: 13 April 2022, CBS News

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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